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store and showing us how to operate the...the newly initiated program from the United States Department of Agriculture. At that time you had, as we do today, you had regular food stamp coupons, and they were in different denominations. And at the beginning of this, in the inception of it, you could not give change back from those...from those paper coupons. So each store would issue script money that was redeemable back at that store in one, five, ten-cent and fifty-cent denominations so that you could make change for the recipients of this program, which worked quite well. Then, oh, I would say it would have been probably ten years later the Department of Agriculture realized that this was burdensome so they let you give change back on the dollar coupons. This put loose change into the hands of the...of the recipients of the food stamps program and we no longer had to mess with the...with the coupons that we had. The reason that I'm bringing this bill to you today from last year was, let's face it, we...we all need to provide services to the underprivileged people in this state. It is our obligation to make sure that, and the federal government's obligation, to make sure that no one goes hungry in this country, and the food stamp program has...has provided that option to a lot of needy people. This is something that I don't, in my opinion, that should not be the burden on the retailer to assume what we call a transaction fee. A transaction fee is a fee that every time your card is swiped, whether it be a Visa card, a Smart card, or a state provided card for food, is going to cost so many cents to whoever...whoever use...runs through that through their machine. This is something that I don't believe, and hopefully 25 of my colleagues don't believe, is a fair thing for...a burden to be put on the retail community of this state. There are several small stores and medium-size stores and larger stores that are having a tough time in this state trying to stay in business. We don't ask for any incentives. Some of the larger groups do. We don't ask for a handout, although some of the incentive tax increment financing and so on have been passed on...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR JANSSEN: ...to larger corporations. This is something that the retailers don't do. We are a fighting group. We